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DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
WASHINGTON

INTERDEPARTMENTAL REFERENCE

September 11, 1962

REFERRED TO

Mr.  CIA

RE:

Attached Congressional correspondence.

WRITER ☒ HAS ☐ HAS NOT BEEN INFORMED OF THIS REFERENCE

COMMENTS:

For reply to constituent's second question.

SIGNATURE

*John J. Dodge*

JDDodge

OFFICE OR DIVISION

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State Dept. review completed

STATINTL

September 13, 1960

Dear Mr. Kramer:

After consideration at the Office of the Vice President, your recent communication to the Vice President has been sent to the Department of State for reply. We appreciate your interest in writing.

The United States has made these contributions, beginning with the UN operation in the Middle East (UNEF) in 1957 and continuing with the Congo operation (UNOC) which began in 1960. The total of our voluntary contributions to UNEF and UNOC since 1957 has amounted to approximately \$65 million.

With the exception of the initial year for each operation, 1957 in the case of UNEF and 1960 for UNOC, United States voluntary contributions to these operations have been specifically authorized and appropriated for in the Foreign Assistance Act of 1962 and its predecessor acts. These initial contributions, totalling about \$23.8 million, came from foreign assistance appropriations available to the President to meet contingencies when he determines such use to be important to the national interest. This included reimbursement to the Department of Defense of \$10.3 million for the cost of the initial airlift in the Congo. For the first year in each case, the need for funds could not be foreseen because of the emergency nature of the requirement.

The United States contributed these amounts to the UN to insure that these peace-keeping operations--which were and are in the United States interest--could continue, not to aid any other UN member.

The

Mr. Herbert W. Kramer,  
4101 Avocado Boulevard,  
La Mesa, California.

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The present annual costs of UNEF and UNOC total about twice the annual cost of the regular UN budget. Because these costs were so large, opposition quickly developed on the part of many UN member states to sharing the costs in the usual manner, that is, on the basis of the regular scale of assessments. These included several Communist nations as well as many of the nations of the free world. However, none of the Communist nations except Yugoslavia have paid any of these assessments so it is hard to see how they have actually received anything.

The United States Government decided that (1) it was in our interest to have UNEF and UNOC continued and (2) if we wanted them to continue, we would have to respond to the UN's appeal for additional funds in the form of voluntary contributions. It has been as a result of the United States and other nations' voluntary contributions to UNEF and UNOC -- operations which the Soviet bloc violently opposes -- that the gap in funds was closed, providing the UN with the resources needed for successful continuation of these operations.

The UN action in voting to reduce the assessments of members less able to pay for these operations was completely in the open and recorded in the annual debates and resolutions. The UN resolution which set up the system was known to the member nations and available to the public. Similarly, the United States voluntary contributions, in response to the UN plea for additional funds to keep these operations afloat, were presented and justified to the Congress each year; and Congress appropriated these funds for the United States contribution.

The system of credits and reductions begun six years ago was ended on June 30, 1962. You know, of course, that the \$100 million loan proposal, which has already passed the Senate, does not provide credits to any nation. It not only eliminates the need for our voluntary contributions, but also lowers our contribution to the peace-keeping operations from 47.5 percent to about 32 percent.

Since

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Since your second question concerns a matter within the jurisdiction of the Central Intelligence Agency, your letter has been referred there. I am sure you will be hearing from the Agency soon.

Sincerely yours,

For the Secretary of State:

Edward A. Karnacki  
Office of Public Services

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